Growth rate of Indian exports hit by IPRS Withdrawal

30. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the withdrawal of the International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) have substantially brought down the growth rate of Indian exports during April-May period of the current year; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) As against an export growth of 20% in dollar terms during 1993-94 for engineering goods, during April-May, 1994, it has slowed down to 5% primarily on account of decline in exports of primary and semi-finished iron and steel items.

(b) Facility of duty free import of raw materials is available to engineering goods exporters under the advance licensing scheme.

Promtion of trade with South Africa

31. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to help promote active trade and economic ties with South Africa; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has taken various steps to promote trade and economic ties with South Africa. Some of these are:

— Commissioning of studies by Export Import Bank of India on potential for India-South Africa trade and on the shipping services with South Africa.

— Visit of a delegation led by H.E. Mr. David Graaff the then Minister of Trade of South Africa to India during November, 1993.

— Visit of a business delegation led by our Minister of State for Commerce to South Africa during January, 1994. Another 103-strong delegation of FIEO also visited South Africa during the same month.

— Organising seminar on trade and investment opportunities by FIEO in South Africa during January, 1994.

— Organising an exclusive Indian Exhibition scheduled in South Africa in the month of August, 1994 which is likely to be inaugurated by the Commerce Minister.

देश-वार आयात

32. **श्री अजीत जोगी** : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1991–92, 1992–93 और 1993–94 के दौरान किये गये आयात का देशवार ब्यौरा क्या है और उसका मूल्य कितना कितना है ; और

(ख) सरकार द्वारा आयात को कम करने और निर्यात बढ़ाने हेतु क्या कदम उठाए गये हैं अथवा उठाए जाने का विचार है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : (क) वर्ष 1991–92, 1992–93 एवं 1993–94 के दौरान किए गए आयातों के देशवार आकड़े वा०जा० एवं सं० महानिदेशालय, कलकत्ता द्वारा प्रकाशित भारत के विदेश व्यापार के आंकड़े (मुख्य मदें तथा देश) के क्रमश: मार्च, 1992, मार्च, 1993 तथा मार्च, 1994 के अंकों में